



Energy & Technology Committee

March 8, 2022

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent 168 towns and cities.

SB 278, AN ACT REQUIRING MULTICHANNEL VIDEO PROGRAMMING DISTRIBUTORS TO PAY A COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAMMING FEE.

CCM supports SB 278 which seeks to, among other things, require the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to establish a fee paid by subscribers of video streaming, Internet access and cable television to support Regional Community Access Providers (CAPs) and Public, Educational, and Government Access (PEG) Programming channels.

Connecticut customers are "cutting the cable cord" to receive internet delivered video service, and as a result, due to the decades old CAPs/PEG funding methods, these nonprofit resources have declined to levels that threaten their existence. CAPs/PEG programming provide Connecticut residents with access to reliable local programming for important town government, education and public interest. Passage of SB 278 would help to alleviate the very dire fiscal position many of these providers are facing and will continue to face if nothing is done.

CCM would encourage Committee Members to support SB 278.

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy Carroccia, Advocacy Manager of CCM at dhamzy@ccm-ct.org or (203) 843-0705.